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RECEIVED
PHILIP MORRIS MANAGEMENT CORP.

JUL 20 1993

NOTED

8th July 1993

Our ref:PAS/PJE/CS/33442
Your ref: PM 1522

Dear Charles,

Foreign Patent Applications based on
PM 1522 - Our file: 33442

Further to your facsimile of 22nd June 1993, I have instructed our Associates in Bolivia, Croatia, Haiti, Israel, Lebanon, Morocco, New Zealand, Saudia Arabia and Tangier not to incur any further expense in connection with the respective applications.

As you know, the patent application in Liberia was granted on 6th August 1992. There are no renewal fees payable to maintain the patent in force, although evidence of working is required within three years from grant. I propose to allow the patent to lapse by not attempting to show working of the invention, provided this position is consistent with obtaining protection in Honduras.

The public disclosure of the invention would invalidate a new application filed in Honduras as well as Colombia, since both countries have an absolute novelty requirement. However, protection may still be obtained in Honduras with a patent of importation, provided that there has been no public use of the invention in Honduras.

In Honduras, a patent of importation must be based on the first foreign application for the invention to be granted, and has a duration equal to the unexpired term of the foreign patent. In the present case, the patent of importation must be based on the Liberian patent and will, it seems, last until August 2012, subject to the payment of annual fees. Please note that working must be effected within one year from the date of the patent, although the working need not necessarily take place in Honduras.

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